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For the WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

STRICTURES *on the Account of the Life and Writings of* DAVID HUME, *Esq*; [P. 193.]

DAVID HUME *is dead!* "Never were "the pillars of orthodoxy so deſ- "perately ſhaken, as they are now by "that event;" cries, with exultation and triumph, one of his diſciples *—"He has "proved himſelf, in oppoſition to a con- "trary opinion, one of theſe rare cha- "racters—an uniform philoſopher.

Pray Sir, let me aſk this gentleman, What has orthodoxy, the *Chriſtian religion* (no doubt you mean?), *or the religion of nature*, if you pleaſe, ſuffered by that event? Every good man, affected with religious principles, and from a humane concern for a fellow creature, muſt have wiſhed, that that philoſopher had, in his laſt moments, expreſſed ſome concern for his future exiſtence! he did it not: that he died firm to his own tenets, they are truly ſorry for: but how the *pillars of religion can be ſhaken* by that event, more than by the death of many a *daring atheiſt* that hath lived and died ſo, in every age, they don't ſee. Your philoſopher, if it will pleaſe you, ſhall rank in the firſt claſs of that ſect.

The famous *Vanini*, crying out at *the ſtake* the name of *God*, was careful to let it be known, that it was an involuntary exclamation.

Spinoza ſhut himſelf up with his old woman, in his laſt moments, giving orders, that no divine ſhould be admitted to diſturb him.

The gay *Petronius*, whoſe exit our hero ſeems to have had in his eye, having cut his veins, and bound them up again, called his friends about him—"*Audiebatque*, ſays the hiſtorian, *referentes, nihil de immortalitate animæ, et ſapientium placitis, ſed levia carmina, et faciles verſus.*"

Our philoſopher, as firm as any of them, in his laſt moments, chearfully entertained his friends with a dialogue between himſelf and Charon, played a game at Whiſt, and read Tom Jones.

Now Sir, all this is very well, and ſtands recorded on good evidence; and no man, I'm perſuaded, will pretend to ſay, that our philoſopher, before he made his exit, either called for the *New Teſtament*, was

* *Apology for the life and writings of David Hume.*

heard to invoke the Deity, or to utter the ſhorteſt ejaculation for his ſoul. And pray what has orthodoxy, or the Chriſtian religion ſuffered from all this? have you any grounds for *inſulting* the *religion of your country* upon that event?

It was the complaint of the *Free-thinkers* of the laſt age, that men of genius were not at liberty to canvaſs with freedom points of religion: that they were obliged to write in fetters, and met with great diſcouragement in their attempts to inveſtigate, with freedom, theſe points. How far they had reaſon for their complaints, may be judged from the writings of *Tindal*, *Collins*, *Toland*, and the noble author of the *Characteriſtics*. It muſt be owned, indeed, that although theſe eſſays are neither remarkable for the ſpirit of moderation, nor for modeſty, yet, ſimple as the appearance was, they thought themſelves obliged, when writing againſt the religion of their country, to put on a fair out-ſide. Thus, although they ſoon unmaſked themſelves, they carried on the ſhew, by affecting, on every occaſion, the ſpecious words of *our holy religion*, *its divine Founder*, *the holy goſpel*, *we Chriſtians*, and ſuch like phraſes in their mouths. This thin diſguiſe, it is true, impoſed upon nobody, but, in ſome meaſure, it was an acknowledgment from theſe gentlemen, that they thought themſelves, at leaſt, under an obligation to treat with decency and reſpect the eſtabliſhed religion of their country; and they were ſenſible too, that it would very ill have become them, while they were declaiming againſt the intemperate zeal of the early profeſſors of Chriſtianity, for inſulting the religion of Paganiſm, then the eſtabliſhed religion, and in extolling the mild forbearance of the *Emperor Julian*, their great hero, if they themſelves had incurred the ſame cenſure. But times, it ſeems, are altered: the Free-thinkers of the preſent age ſeem to be inſenſible of the unbounded toleration, the perfect freedom which they now enjoy.

This leads me to take notice of another abuſe of this liberty, in a paper which, Mr Printer, you have lately given to the public; to wit, "An account of "the life and writings of the late David "Hume, Eſq;" than which, a more groſs inſult has not been offered, I wont ſay to religion alone (for, with the *Humean ſchool*, religion, in every ſenſe, is out of the queſtion,) but to the *moral* ſenſe and common underſtanding of mankind.

This piece, as it hath appeared firſt in the Annual Regiſter, and lately in your Weekly Magazine, I mean to examine, and make ſome obſerves upon.

It is proper to premiſe, that the writer of this paper, with reſpect to the life and writings of the philoſopher, notwithſtanding his inviting title, has given us only a bald repetition of a few of the anecdotes from Mr Hume's life, written by himſelf. Of the obſervations he makes on our author's metaphyſical works, I mean only to take notice.

This writer introduces his account with a high ſwoln panegyric on our author's firſt metaphyſical production, *The Treatiſe on Human Nature*—"A work "(ſays *this judge*) not inferior to any "thing of the moral, or metaphyſi-"cal kind in any language." And to juſtify this very deciſive opinion, he is pleaſed to give us an abſtract from our author, with reſpect to the *principles* of *modeſty*, and *chaſtity of women*, and the neceſſary reſtraint they are laid under, in order to preſerve their fidelity to their huſbands, and to the marriage-bed. Mr Hume ſays, with truth, that "conſidering the length and feebleneſs of infancy, both parents muſt unite their care in the education of their young; therefore, *a priori*, they muſt believe that the children are their own." He then proceeds to tell us what is equally true and well known, that "if we examine the ſtructure of the human body, we ſhall find that this ſecurity is very difficult to be attained on our part; and that ſince, in the copulation of the ſexes, the principles of generation goes from the man to the woman, an error may take place on the ſide of the former, though it be utterly impoſſible on the ſide of the latter. In order therefore, to impoſe a due reſtraint on the female ſex, we muſt attach a peculiar degree of ſhame to their infidelity above what ariſes merely from its injuſtice, and muſt beſtow proportionable praiſes on their chaſtity: But, as human creatures, eſpecially of the female kind, are apt to overlook remote conſequences while under the influence of any preſent temptation, it is neceſſary, beſide the infamy attending ſuch licences, that there ſhould be ſome preceding backwardneſs or dread which may prevent their firſt approaches, and give the female ſex a repugnance to all expreſſions, and poſtures and liberties, that have an immediate relation to that enjoyment."—"So muc

" good ſenſe and ſound reaſoning (ſays " our obſervator) was never delivered in " ſo few words on the ſubject of *female* " *virtue* by any writer ancient or mo- " dern." Indeed! " Yet, (proceeds he) " this is an extract from the *treatiſe*," (Reader mark his modeſty,) " whoſe con- " futation has been *impudently* attempt- " ed, more than once, by mere *common* " *ſenſe*," (really!) " and childiſh decla- mation."

Equally ſenſible and modeſt is this re- mark! It is ſcarce poſſible, indeed, to cram more *conceit* and *nonſenſe* into fewer words. As for the ſenſe and reaſoning contained in the above extract from Mr Hume, it would have been truly abſurd in any body to have pretended either to confute, or even to diſpute; and I wiſh this writer had told us who had attempted to do it. As for ingenuity in the extract, or noveſty, there is none. Is there an old woman that, without much knowledge of the *human ſtructure*, does not know, that al- though we can, with no certainty, deter- mine the father, yet there can be no doubt as to the mother of the child? or is it a new diſcovery of Mr Hume, that in order to impoſe due reſtraint on the wife, to preſerve inviolate the marriage-bed, it was neceſſary that, beſides the ſhame, in- famy, and even puniſhment annexed to her breach of fidelity, the utmoſt cau- tion ſhould be exerted to inculcate the ſeeds of modeſty into the ſex from the earlieſt infancy? Did Dr Beattie get a penſion for impudently attempting to confute this doctrine, not of Mr Hume, but eſtabliſhed in every civilized nation ſo early as man could have any notion of ſociety? No. But ſhall I tell this writer what deteſtable principles of Mr Hume, even ſubverſive of his above doctrine, Dr Beat- tie, and ſeveral others, have, with mere common ſenſe, taken upon them to diſ- pute, and, ſtrange as it is, even to confute.

Mr Hume has told us, that *chaſtity*, con- ſidered abſtractly from its *utility*, is no vir- tue: That the principles of chaſtity re- ſpect generation only; it follows, then, that, in women paſt child-bearing, it is no virtue at all *: That adultery, if fre- quently practiſed, would ceaſe to be ſcan- dalous; and that, if ſecretly practiſed, would be thought no crime †. Bleſſed doctrine this, and tending much to re- form the manners of the age! The conſequences that may be drawn from theſe principles ſhall not be here ſtated.— Was our philoſopher a man of gallantry? It is ſaid that he affected the company of women, and the ladies, it is ſaid, loaded him with their favours: For the honour of the *ſex*, it is to be hoped that he had few pupils. To every virtuous woman ſuch principles muſt have appeared ſhock- ing and deteſtable.

This writer tells us, " That, in 1746, " Mr Hume ſtood candidate for the chair " of moral philoſophy in the univerſity of " Edinburgh, then vacant: Every one, " ſays he, was convinced of Mr Hume's " abilities; but *the preſbytery of Edinburgh*, " having a right to object to one of the " three candidates, they put their nega- " tive upon *honeſt David*, whoſe ſenti- " ments were *too liberal* for their *narrow* " *minds*. As he was eminently qualified " for this office, he could have been of " more ſervice to his country than in any " other."

Ye illiberal and narrow-minded men of the preſbytery of Edinburgh, what hurt did you not do to your country, in de- priving it of David Hume for profeſſor of morality! what a bleſſed ſyſtem of ethicks would he have inſtilled into our youth!

To laugh were want of goodneſs, and of grace;
And to be grave, exceeds all power of face.

But let us collect ſome of the dogmas of our philoſopher.

1. " The efficacy of cauſes (ſays he) is " neither placed in cauſes themſelves, nor " in the Deity, but belongs entirely to the " ſoul. * " The obvious concluſion is, that there is *no firſt cauſe*.

2. That we have no good reaſon to think that the univerſe proceeds from a cauſe †.

3. That matter and motion may be the cauſe of thought ‡.

4. That the material world does not exiſt.—Allow this to be called in queſtion, What arguments have we to prove the being of God? ‖

5. That neither matter nor ſpirit exiſt. —Let us attend to our philoſopher's principles of morality.

* *The principles of morals, page 66.*
† *Eſſays, vol. 2. page 409.*

* *Treatiſe on Human Nature, vol. 1. p. 291.*
† *Hume's Eſſay on a particular Providence and Future State.*
‡ *Treatiſe of Human Nature, vol. 1. p. 434.*
‖ *Eſſay on Sceptical Philoſophy.*

6. That juſtice is not a natural virtue, but artificial and arbitrary *.

7. That all moral virtues are of the ſame nature, *i. e.* arbitrary, and depending on the cuſtoms and inſtitutions of men †.

8. That every action of man is neceſſary ‡.

Theſe are ſome of the principles, which Dr Beattie has moſt impudently taken upon him to confute; and, ſtrange to tell, has, with mere common ſenſe, brought the whole *metaphyſical ſyſtem* of our philoſophic ruins about his ears.

Let us ſuppoſe however, that our author had obtained the philoſophic chair, he might, no doubt, from the above principles, have thus harangued:

"Now, my ſtudents, having inculcated theſe principles, make off the fetters of ſuperſtition, that is, religion, being convinced there is no firſt cauſe: *futurity* is a mere bugbear, and I have demonſtrated in a work which I mean at my death to bequeath to you ‖. Make the moſt, therefore, of the advantages which my philoſophy ſhall give you, over the weakneſs and ſuperſtitious prejudices of mankind. And rejoice that, like your fellow brutes, total and eternal *annihilation* ſhall be your fate.

"I have but one other word of comfort to give you; and that, for the univerſal good of mankind, I ſhall likewiſe order to be made public after my death ‖. If, notwithſtanding the liberal principles I have given you; if, in the practice of the many advantages my tenets muſt give you over the wives, the daughters, and fortunes of your weak fellow mortals; any of you, from the want of firmneſs of nerves, weakneſs of conſtitution, or from the troubleſome intruſion of a certain faculty in the machine, not altogether ſubdued by my phyſics, called *conſcience*, ſhall find yourſelves diſturbed and haunted, there is an eaſy remedy; ſuicide is a cure for every diſeaſe: For be aſſured,

"The worſt that can befal you, meaſur'd right,
Is a found ſlumber, and a long good night."

Can it be ſaid that this ſpeech is not a fair induction from the above principles? I think it cannot. But it will be ſaid, no doubt, that our philoſopher was a man of virtue, and a very good member of ſociety: abſtracting from the immorality of writing and publiſhing ſuch principles, I ſhall allow he was ſo: What follows? Only this, that his paſſions for inordinate pleaſures luckily were none of the ſtrongeſt; and that his conſtitution led him to ſtudy, entertaining his friends, and the pleaſures of the table. But with all that, can any excuſe be made for his attempts to take from man, (that wild beaſt hurried away by paſſions) the curbs of *juſtice*, *chaſtity*, *virtue*, and *religion*? What apology can his warmeſt admirers make for this?

Let me oppoſe to the above dogmas, only one of the precepts of another *philoſopher*, I mean, the divine Inſtituter of our religion; for, reader, I am not aſhamed to own myſelf one of the people called Chriſtians. This bleſſed perſon, whoſe wiſdom came from heaven, knew how prone poor weak mortals were to be led aſtray by unguarded paſſions; and that the firſt inlet to carnal deſires ought to be guarded againſt. Let not even your eye, ſays he, fix upon ſuch objects as may, by degrees, hurry you on *to vice and criminality*; rather pull it out: For remember, that God dwells not with impurity. *Bleſſed*, therefore, are the *pure in heart*, for they *ſhall ſee God*.

Before I conclude, I ſhall make one obſervation, which, I dare ſay, daily occurs to the experience of many others, that is, That the philoſophy of our author ſeems to be very agreeable, and often in the mouths of many of the men of faſhion of the age: That he was a very ſubtile and acute metaphyſician, his works ſhew; yet, amidſt all his pretended admirers, it is a certain fact, that not one of a hundred of theſe fine gentlemen underſtand him, of which the writer of the account of his life, &c. ſtands a lamentable proof.

To conclude; may the *Freethinkers* of the preſent age ever rejoice in the liberty and freedom which they now enjoy; may they always thankfully cry out in the words of the hiſtorian; *Rara temporum felicitas, ubi ſentire quæ velis, et quæ ſentias dicere, ac ſcribere licet!* * At the ſame time, let theſe gentlemen learn to make a better uſe of that liberty, than in *inſulting common ſenſe, and the religion of their country.*

TOBIAS SIMPLE.

* *Tacitus.*

[*An anſwer to theſe ſtrictures is expected.*]

* *Treatiſe on Human Nature, vol. iii. p. 37.*
† *Ibid.*
‡ *Eſſays, vol. ii. p. 91.*
‖ *Two pieces of our author, one on the immortality of the ſoul, the other on ſuicide, left by him in charge to his executors to publiſh after his death.*

Genuine MEMOIRS *of the Life and Writings of the late* SAMUEL FOOTE, *Esq;* [P. 260.]

A PARTY of pleaſure with the late Duke of York, Lord Mexborough, and Sir Francis Delaval, proved at once a fatal and a lucky adventure to Mr Foote. Being thrown from his horſe, he broke his leg, which turning to a mortification, he was compelled to undergo an amputation. Aſſiſtance was immediately ſent for to London, and Mr Bromfield, with another chirurgical gentleman, went down to him, and performed the operation, when the fortitude Mr Foote teſtified on the occaſion greatly aſtoniſhed all preſent.

During the night after the operation had been performed, from ſome accident the wound began to bleed afreſh. There was no aſſiſtance at hand, and the conſequence muſt have been fatal, if Mr Foote had not had the preſence of mind to recollect that ſponge would be the moſt proper application to ſtop the oozing, but where to get any at that time in the morning, he knew not. In this very deſperate dilemma it occured to him, that he had in his portmanteau a tooth-bruſh, one end of which had a ſponge to it, and by this lucky thought, and ſo trifling an object, the bleeding was ſtopped.

This accident ſo ſenſibly affected the late Duke of York, that he made a point of obtaining for Mr Foote a patent for his life, which he procured in 1766, whereby he was allowed to perform at the theatre in the Haymarket, from the 15th of May to the 15th of September every year.

Strange as it may appear, Mr Foote, with a cork *ſuccedaneum* for his leg, filled his uſual caſt of characters with no leſs humour and vivacity than he had before exhibited; his very laughable pieces, with his more laughable performances, conſtantly filled his houſe; and his receipts were ſome ſeaſons almoſt incredible. Parſimony was never a vice to be aſcribed to Mr Foote. His hoſpitality and generoſity were ever conſpicuous. His table was not only attended by his particular friends and acquaintances, but even by the firſt nobility; and he was ſometimes honoured even by royal gueſts.

In the courſe of his theatrical excurſions he ſometimes took a trip to Dublin, where, in his farce of the Orators, he took off George Faulkner, the celebrated printer, who reſented the joke ſo ſeriouſly, that he indicted our humouriſt for a libel; and, from the diſpoſition of the judge who preſided in the Court of King's Bench, it was generally believed the matter would have terminated to his diſgrace; but he ſuddenly quitted that metropolis, and returned to England, leaving his bail to pay the penalty of their bonds; whom, notwithſtanding the reports to the contrary, he ſoon re-imburſed.

A few years before his death, he took, during the winter ſeaſon, the Edinburgh theatre from the proprietor Mr Roſs, and was ſo acceptable to the public, that he cleared near 800l. after paying his company, before the commencement of his ſummer campaign at the Haymarket. Notwithſtanding this ſucceſs, he did not return to Scotland the enſuing winter, but let the play-houſe to Meſſrs Digges and Bland, which occaſioned a law-ſuit between him and Mr Roſs, which was not abſolutely terminated at the time of his deceaſe.

The attack made upon his character by one of his domeſtics, whom he had diſmiſſed for miſbehaviour, is too well known to particularize here. Suffice it to ſay, he was honourably acquitted of the charge; but it is generally believed by the faculty, the ſhock he received from it accelerated his death. He was in April laſt ſurpriſed by a ſtroke of the palſy, which, after a ſhort interval of health, occurred again as he was performing in the Devil upon Two Sticks, at the Haymarket, and he had nearly made his *exit*, like his celebrated predeceſſor *Moliere*, in one of his own pieces.

Previous to his illneſs, he diſpoſed of his property to George Colman, Eſq; upon condition of the latter allowing him the ſum of 1600l. *per annum* during his life.

At the concluſion of the laſt ſummer he went down to Brighthelmſtone, where he apparently recovered his former health and ſpirits; and was, what is called, the "fiddle of the company," who reſorted to that agreeable place of amuſement. He returned to his houſe at North End, near Hammerſmith, a few months ſince; but, by the advice of his phyſicians, ſet out with an intention to ſpend the winter at Paris, and in the ſouth of France, but was ſuddenly attacked at Dover by another fit of the palſy, which, in a few hours, terminated his exiſtence.

Of this extraordinary performer it may be truly ſaid, with Shakeſpeare, that

His life was laughter and the ludicrous.

As a private man (to ſpeak in the words of an ingenious critic) he was humane, generous, and friendly; in the company of men of high rank and ſuperior fortune, who eagerly ſought his acquaintance, he preſerved an eaſy and noble independency, and always endeavoured to place modeſt merit in the moſt conſpicuous point of view.

His life was checquered with a variety of viciſſitudes. At one time he was diſpoſing of his ſide-board of plate for a ſong, to preſerve himſelf from a jail; at another he was driving his duns, as they had drove him; alternately, in a ſponging-houſe and a drawing-room. To day meſſing with bailiffs' followers upon a leg of beef, to morrow aſſiſting at the table of the firſt nobleman in England.

He had ſuch amazing ſpirits, that no misfortunes, however great, could damp them. Even the loſs of his leg did not ſeem to affect him, and he would be jocular with his friends upon the occaſion, whilſt they were lamenting the melancholy accident.

He was certainly one of the moſt facetious companions that ever exiſted; he was alſo a man of learning and clear judgment, and could enter into the moſt ſerious diſquiſition the moment after he had been ſetting the table in a roar with his wit and pleaſantry.

Since no man, therefore, has more eſſentially contributed to the entertainment of the public, nor oftener made the minds of his acquaintance expand with mirth and good humour, let us, in gratitude, paſs over his foibles, and reflect on his good qualities with that mixture of grief and joy felt by every man of candour, who, in the moment he regrets the loſs of an acquaintance, rejoices that, among the actions of his life, many deſerve the higheſt praiſe, and that the effuſions of his genius have eſtabliſhed him a degree of reputation ſuperior to the artifices of envy, or the efforts of malice.

A RETROSPECTIVE VIEW *of* American *Affairs in the Year* 1775. [P. 272.]

SOME ſmall time previous to the arrival of the fleet and army, plots in favour of the royal cauſe were diſcovered in New-York and Albany, which were productive of much trouble. Some few executions took place, great numbers were confined, and many, abandoning their houſes under the operation of their fears, were purſued as outlaws, and enemies to their country. The eſtates of thoſe unfortunate people, againſt whom there were proofs, were ſeized. In the mean time, new forms of government were eſtabliſhed in all thoſe colonies, which deemed the former inſufficient for their preſent ſituation, and the others made the alterations neceſſary to adapt their old forms to the new ſyſtem. The declaration of independence was alſo publiſhed in all the colonies, and every where received and accompanied with the greateſt public teſtimonials of joy. This confidence and boldneſs in the midſt of ſo untried and dangerous a ſtruggle, and at the eve of ſo formidable an invaſion, ſhewed either great preſumption, a knowledge of internal ſtrength, or a certainty of foreign ſupport, which appeared alarming.

The firſt diviſion of Heſſians, with the Britiſh troops by whom they were accompanied, ſailed directly from England to Halifax, as Lord Howe had done, being ſtill ignorant of the general's departure from that place. By this means the month of Auguſt was conſiderably advanced before their arrival at New-York, and it was of courſe ſome days longer before any expedition of importance could be undertaken by the commiſſioners. In the mean time they were joined by Sir Peter Parker and Gen. Clinton, with the ſquadron and forces from South Carolina, as well as by ſome regiments from Florida and the Weſt Indies.

All the forces being now arrived, except about one half of the Heſſians, who, though on their way, were not ſpeedily expected, an attempt upon Long Iſland was reſolved upon, as being more practicable, and therefore better fitted for the firſt eſſay, than New-York, as affording a greater ſcope for the diſplay to advantage of military ſkill and experience, and as abounding with thoſe ſupplies which ſo great a body of men as were now aſſembled by ſea and land neceſſarily demanded.

The neceſſary meaſures being taken [Auguſt 22.] by the fleet for covering the deſcent, the army was landed without oppoſition near Utrecht and

Graveſend, on the ſouth-weſt end of the iſland, and not far from the narrows where it approaches cloſeſt to Staten Iſland. Gen. Putnam was at that time with a ſtrong force encamped at Brookland, or Brooklyn, at a few miles diſtance, on the north coaſt, where his works covered the breadth of a ſmall peninſula, having what is called the Eaſt-river, which ſeparated him from New-York, on his left; a marſh, which extended to Gowan's Cove, on his right; with the bay and Governor's Iſland to his back. The armies were ſeparated by a range of hills covered with wood, which interſect the country from eaſt to weſt, and are, in that part, called the heights of Guana. The direct road to the enemy lay through a village called Flat Buſh, where the hills commenced, and near which was one of the moſt important paſſes. As the army advanced, the north coaſt was to the left, the ſouth to the right, and Flat Buſh was nearly in the center between both. The iſland in that part is kept narrow by Jamaica bay, on the right, but ſoon widens. Gen. Putnam had detached a conſiderable part of his army to occupy the woody hills, and poſſeſs the paſſes; and if the commanders upon this ſervice had been ſkilful and vigilant, they could not have been eaſily paſſed.

Lord Cornwallis puſhed on immediately with the reſerve, and ſome other troops, to Flat Buſh, where finding the enemy in poſſeſſion of the paſs, he complied with his orders in making no attempt upon it. When the whole army was landed, the Heſſians, under Gen. Heiſter, compoſed the center at Flat Buſh; Major-gen. Grant commanded the left wing, which extended to the coaſt; and the principal army, containing much the greater part of the Britiſh forces, under the command of Gen. Clinton, Earl Percy, and Lord Cornwallis, turned ſhort to the right, and approached the oppoſite coaſt at Flat Land.

Every thing being prepared for forcing the hills, and advancing towards the enemy's lines, Gen. Clinton, at the head of the van of the army, conſiſting of the light infantry, grenadiers, light horſe, the reſerve under Lord Cornwallis, and other corps, with fourteen field pieces, began, as ſoon as it was dark on the night of the 26th, to move from Flat Land, and paſſing through the part of the country called the New Lots, arrived upon the road which croſſes the hills from Bedford to Jamaica, where turning to the left towards the former of thoſe places, they ſeized a paſs of the utmoſt importance, which, through ſome unaccountable and fatal neglect of the enemy's generals, was left unguarded. The main body, under Lord Percy, with ten field pieces, followed the van at a moderate diſtance, and the way being thus happily open, the whole army paſſed the hills without noiſe or impediment, and deſcended by the town of Bedford into the level country which lay between them and Putnam's lines.

The engagement was begun early in the morning by the Heſſians at Flat Buſh, and by Gen. Grant on the coaſt, and a warm cannonade, with a briſk fire of ſmall arms, was eagerly ſupported on both ſides for ſome hours. In the mean time, the ſhips made ſeveral motions on the left, and attacked a battery on Red Hook, not only to diſtract the right of the enemy, who were engaged with Gen Grant, but to call off their attention totally from the left and rear, where all their danger lay. Thoſe who oppoſed the Heſſians in the left and center, were the firſt apprized of the march of the Britiſh army, and of their own danger. They accordingly retreated in large bodies, and in tolerable order, with their artillery, in order to recover their camp, but ſoon found themſelves intercepted by the King's troops, who furiouſly attacked, and drove them back into the woods. There they again met the Heſſians, and were alternately chaſed and intercepted by the light infantry and dragoons. In theſe deſperate circumſtances, ſome of their regiments, overpowered and outnumbered as they were, forced their way to their lines, through all the difficulties and dangers that ſurrounded them. Others, perhaps not leſs brave, periſhed in the attempt. Some kept the woods and eſcaped; others leſs fortunate were loſt under the ſame protection. The nature of the country, and variety of the ground, occaſioned a continuance and extenſion of ſmall engagements, purſuits, and ſlaughter, which laſted for many hours.

Never was any body of men more effectually entrapped: their right, which was engaged with Gen. Grant on the

coaſt, were ſo late in their knowledge of what was paſſing, that they were intercepted in their retreat by ſome of the Britiſh troops, who, beſides turning the hills, and their left, had on that morning traverſed the whole extent of country in their rear. Such of theſe as did not chuſe to take to the woods were obliged to throw themſelves into the marſh at Gowan's Cove, which we have already taken notice of, where many were drowned, and others periſhed more miſerably in the mud: a conſiderable number, however, made their eſcape this way to the lines, though they were thinned in every part of the courſe by the fire of the purſuers.

Their loſs was repreſented as exceeding 3000 men, including about 1000 who were taken priſoners. Almoſt a whole regiment from Maryland, conſiſting altogether of young men of the beſt families in the country, was cut to pieces. Undoubtedly their loſs muſt have been great, though they do not acknowledge any ſuch number in their accounts. This action, however, broke their ſpirits exceedingly. They not only loſt a number of the beſt and braveſt men, but the ſurvivers loſt that hope of ſucceſs, and confidence in their own proweſs, which are ſo eſſential to victory. New ſoldiers, in the fulneſs of ſpirits, and pride of bodily ſtrength, can ſcarcely conceive any advantage over them, which the old can derive from diſcipline and a knowledge of their buſineſs: And if they are well commanded, and ſkillfully led to action in this temper, ſo that their opponents are deprived of an opportunity of turning theſe advantages to account, they will do wonderful execution: for not being yet capable of thoroughly comprehending the danger, nor having known by experience the pain and vexation of wounds, they are often more daring, adventurous, and violent than veterans. But if, as in the preſent inſtance, they find courage and ſtrength totally uſeleſs; that when they are making the greateſt, and, as they think, moſt effectual efforts, they find them all thrown away, and that they are ſurrounded, overpowered, and deſtroyed, by means which they cannot underſtand, they withdraw all due confidence from thoſe things on which they had before placed too much, and aſcribe an irreſiſtible power to military ſkill and diſcipline, which they do not really poſſeſs. Thus they abandon their natural ſtrength, and it will be ſome time before they have confidence enough in their new knowledge to call it effectually into action.

Great errors ſeem to have been committed on the ſide of the provincial commanders. They ſay, that a body of not more than four or five thouſand men was ſurrounded by the whole force of the Britiſh army. They endeavour to palliate their miſconduct in getting into that ſituation, by repreſenting, that they had no idea that more than about that number of Britiſh troops were landed on the iſland. It does appear as if no more had landed in the firſt embarkation; but either from a change or concealment of plan, very great bodies were afterwards embarked and paſſed. The provincials too, as uſual with men in misfortunes, hinted treachery in ſome of thoſe who were employed to diſcover the motions of the enemy, and to guard the paſſes, by the not occupying of which they had been ſurrounded.

Nothing could exceed the ſpirit and alacrity ſhewn by all the different corps of which the Britiſh army was compoſed in this action. The ardour of the ſoldiers was ſo great, that it was with difficulty the generals could call them off from attacking the enemy's lines, in the eagerneſs of their purſuit after the fugitives. Nor is it improbable, in that temper, but they would have carried every thing before them. It may be ſuppoſed, that the emulation between the foreign troops and the Britiſh did not leſſen the deſire of being diſtinguiſhed on either ſide in this their firſt action. Too much praiſe cannot be given to the ability which planned this enterprize, nor to the promptneſs and exactitude with which the ſeveral generals carried their reſpective parts of it into execution.

Three of the enemy's commanders, viz. Major-gen. Sullivan, with the Brigadiers-general Lord Stirling and Udell, and ten other field officers, were among the priſoners. The loſs on the ſide of the Britiſh and Heſſians was very trifling, being under 350 in killed and wounded; of which the former did not compoſe one fifth. An officer with a few men were taken priſoners. The victorious army encamped [Auguſt 27th] in the front of the enemy's works on that evening, and on the 28th, at night, broke

ground in form at 600 yards diſtance from a redoubt which covered the enemy's left.

Gen. Waſhington paſſed over from New York during the engagement, and is ſaid to have burſt into a poignant exclamation of grief, when he beheld the inextricable deſtruction in which ſome of his beſt troops were involved. Nothing was now left, but to preſerve the remainder of the army on Long Iſland. He knew that the ſuperior power of the royal artillery would ſoon ſilence their batteries, and that if their lines were forced, which, in their preſent depreſſion of ſpirits, and comparative weakneſs in numbers as well as diſcipline, there was little hope of preventing, they muſt all be killed or taken. If he attempted to ſtrengthen them by reinforcements from New-York, he hazarded the loſs of that iſland, which was already menaced on every ſide, and kept in continual alarm and apprehenſion from the fleet. A danger not leſs than any other was ſtill to be conſidered; the men of war only waited for a fair wind to enter and take poſſeſſion of the Eaſt river, which would have totally cut off all communication between the iſlands. In this ſituation, no hope remained but in a retreat; a matter of no ſmall difficulty and danger, under the eye of ſo vigilant an enemy, and with ſo powerful an army, flushed with ſucceſs, cloſe to their works. This arduous taſk was, however, undertaken, and carried into execution with great ability by Gen. Waſhington. In the night of the 29th, their troops were withdrawn from their camp and their different works, and with their baggage, ſtores, and part of their artillery, were conveyed to the water ſide, embarked, and paſſed over a long ferry to New-York, with ſuch wonderful ſilence and order, that our army did not perceive the leaſt motion, and were ſurpriſed in the morning at finding the lines abandoned, and ſeeing the laſt of the rear guard (or, as they ſay, a party which had returned to carry off ſome ſtores that were left behind) in their boats, and out of danger. Thoſe who are beſt acquainted with the difficulty, embarraſſment, noiſe, and tumult, which attend even by day, and no enemy at hand, a movement of this nature with ſeveral thouſand men, will be the firſt to acknowledge, that this retreat ſhould hold a high place among military tranſactions.

DIALOGUE *in the* SHADES *between Gen.* WOLFE *and Gen.* MONTGOMERY.

Montgomery.

IT is an happy chance for me, brave Wolfe, to find you alone in this ſolitary walk, ſince I may, without being interrupted, expatiate with you on the unjuſt contempt you have ſhewn me from the day of my arrival in this delightful place: a treatment which ill becomes your noble and patriotic ſoul.

Wolfe. Do you claim in your behalf the very ſentiment which excites my indignation againſt you?

Montgomery. What can you charge me with? Have I not, with a courage as undaunted as yours, encountered an honourable death on the ſame ſpot where you glorioufly fell, and which, though rendered famous by your victory, cannot be diſgraced by my defeat.

Wolfe. Far be it from enlightened ſouls to judge of true valour according to good or ill ſucceſs. No, the only difference between you and me was in the cauſe for which we fought.

Montgomery. Was the injury you avenged by torrents of blood of ſo black a dye, that nothing leſs would have waſhed it off? I thought that the ground of the quarrel you deem ſo righteous was only ſome breaches of antient treaties, which ſcarcely deſerved the name of treſpaſſes.

Wolfe. Since you provoke me thus, I ſhall tell you in plain words, that I was the champion of my country againſt its natural and inveterate enemy the French; and that you have been the leader of ſeditious men, who revolted againſt a people to whom they were bound by the moſt ſacred tie of filial duty.

Montgomery. There are ſo few inſtances recorded in the annals of mankind, to prove that parental tenderneſs and filial love preponderate over ſelf-intereſt in private individuals, that it was not worth while to employ the abſurd metaphor of the Mother Country, to enforce ſentiments, which would not be ſo emphatically related, and ſo much admired, if they were common in the literal ſenſe of the image. But, ſuppoſing that nature works more effectually than ſhe generally does upon the hearts of parents and children, are not the inſtruments ſhe makes uſe of, a familiar intercourſe and a long habit?

Wolfe. I ſee you pretend, that the af-

finity between a colony and the nation whence it came, is like that which is found in the brute creation, and ſubſides when the weakneſs of early life ceaſes. Have you no faith either in friendſhip or in alliance?

Montgomery. Friendſhip ſtands in the ſame predicament with filial duty in reſpect to nations, for this ſentiment is raiſed in the human heart by the ſame mean; except, that not poſſeſſing the mind ſo ſoon, it admits and requires the influence of reaſon and judgment, which, ſtill leſs than a blind partiality, cannot operate on men ſeparated at a great diſtance, and who hardly think upon each other's exiſtence in the whole courſe of their lives. As to alliance, I acknowledge it a tie, and perhaps the only one binding among men; for it is founded on mutual advantages, and allowed to be diſſolved when the balance of theſe advantages inclines too much on either ſide. On this plan has been raiſed the fabric of every government: the multitude have ſaid to one or to a few, "We will obey and honour you, provided that you never miſuſe the power we are willing to grant you, in order to ſupport the dignity of your ſtations; but obſerve, to conduct us and yourſelves according to the conſtitutional laws we have unanimouſly approved; if ever you turn aſide from that ſacred ſtandard, you are no more our leaders, but our greateſt enemies."

Wolfe. Ah, ah! would you have ſpoken thus to an Aſiatic prince, or even to ſome European monarchs?

Montgomery. I ſhould, undoubtedly, have had the right, though perhaps not the courage, to do it. But, as a reputed ſubject to the Engliſh government, I was not debaſed by ſlavery; I durſt ſpeak, and even arm in defence of Liberty!

Wolfe. Oh! moſt ſacred word, how much haſt thou been profaned in every age by turbulent and deſigning men, who claim the bleſſing thou expreſſeſt with deceitful ſighs, while their hearts are bent upon deſtroying it, either by anarchy or deſpotiſm!

Montgomery. I refuſe not to hear your virulent apoſtrophes, provided you give a fair hearing to my meek arguments.

Wolfe. Forbear, if you think to impoſe upon me by a cant which cannot ſerve your turn but with fools. Stand firm if you can, on the ground of good ſenſe; and expect not to find me ignorant of the tranſactions that have paſſed ſince I left the earth, for here we have daily accounts of them.

Montgomery. On this is founded my hope of convincing you; ſince you cannot but know, that if our antient prepoſſeſſions are left us as a puniſhment for them, we are, nevertheleſs, above uttering a voluntary falſehood. Thus the facts I ſhall alledge in favour of my cauſe, being atteſted by the moſt partial ſhades of the oppoſite party, you ſhall have no other trouble than that of judging if my inferences are right or wrong. As to your fear of being tired with the jargon of an enthuſiaſt, I doubt not to remove it by a ſimple queſtion. Do you believe that your ſoldiers would have fought as courageouſly as they did, if juſt before the battle you had gone from rank to rank, explaining to them the true motives of your valour, and ſaid, "Here, my friends, we are to ſupport, at the hazard of our lives, ſome intereſt of commerce, and the glory of our arms, againſt men who have the very ſame reaſons to fight againſt us, and who, upon the whole, are neither better nor worſe than ourſelves. Believe not the abſurdities related in regard to the perſons, ſentiments and deſigns of the French, but attack them, ſpurred only by honour and a patriotic jealouſy of fame."

Wolfe. I confeſs that this harangue would have been very prepoſterous and imprudent.

Montgomery. Such has been always the caſe with every general, chief, and even legiſlator: they knew that common ſouls muſt be moved by ſprings leſs refined than thoſe which put heroic ones in action, and they dealt with them accordingly. Thus the generality of the Roman warriors were urged to the conqueſt of the world from a prepoſſeſſion that a man's head, which they found buried in the earth at the building of their capital, was an infallible prediction of their ſucceſs. Thus your ſoldiers wanted their prejudices againſt the French, and the terror of popery, to conquer; and thus my Americans need all the enthuſiaſm of a zealous ſect to aſſert their rights.

Wolfe. Independency, I preſume, is in the number of theſe rights or claims.

Montgomery. Certainly it is, not for the Americans, but alſo for all nations whatſoever; for as long as the laws to which they have conſented hold the

ſway, as they ought to do, they are not dependent upon any other will but their own; and when theſe laws yield to uſurpation, they are at full liberty to chuſe ſome better defence againſt the like encroachments, and to purſue by force what is denied to reaſon. Has not this been always the opinion of free-born Engliſhmen?

Wolfe. Yes: but wiſe men in general allow ſomething to circumſtances: they fancy no wrongs when there are none: and, above all, aim not at impoſſibilities. Your reaſons for your rupture with England, I am willing to hear by and bye; but tell me now, if in breaking your antient connection (I will not ſay in ſhaking off your allegiance) you can reaſonably expect to remain a free people amidſt ſo many enterprizing neighbours?

Montgomery. There is no choice in tyrants. Are the chains of a people lighter for being impoſed upon them by a corrupted ſenate, than they would be by an arbitrary monarch? Is not, at leaſt, the diſmal proſpect of future evils more bounded, when the power of inflicting them lies in the power of a ſingle wicked man, who may be ſucceeded by a righteous one, than, when many are prompted by baſe intereſt to our ruin, and leave their miſchievous venality as an inheritance to their ſucceſſors?

Wolfe. How dare you ſpeak thus before me? who, well-knowing that the beſt abſolute monarchy is to our happy ſyſtem of equally balanced powers, what a tree blaſted from its root is to another rotten only in ſome of its branches, have laviſhed my blood to preſerve you from falling into a ſtate of ſlavery, not leſs inſupportable to a noble mind for being caſually ſoftened. No, I fought not for glory only, as you are willing to inſinuate I did, to rob me of the moſt exalted virtue. Such an empty deſire had not ſtrength enough to rouſe me from the lethargy of death, when mortally wounded and juſt expiring at the foot of a tree, I exulted at the news of a victory bought at the price of my life; it was benevolence that raiſed my tranſport, and gave me a momentary animation; a benevolence which I reluctantly denied to the brave Montcalm, when my adverſary and now my intimate friend, altho' he deſerved it better than your Americans, for whom I exerted it to the laſt: ungrateful men!

Montgomery. Be appeaſed; we may deny that we were the cauſe of the war which has juſtly immortalized your name, without arraigning the private ſentiments by which a generous warrior may be actuated, even in following the orders of unfeeling and artful politicians; and aſſure yourſelf we retain a due ſenſe of the obligations we owe you. My eagerneſs for being juſtified in your mind is not a ſmall proof of my veneration for your heroic and ſocial virtues. But ſince you require a ſatisfactory anſwer to your laſt interrogation, know, that our hope of becoming a free people in the extent of the word, ſeems to us not ſo deſtitute of probability as you think it. True, we cannot attain that deſirable end without infinite difficulties: like the Ruſſians, who, emerging from ignorance and ruſticity, have been enabled to raiſe a formidable empire by many ſhameful defeats, we muſt acquire the military art with the pureſt of our blood; but then, our dearly-bought abilities ſhall be employed againſt any one of the nations that might attempt to enſlave us, with as much fervency as we had reluctance to turn our natural, but undiſciplined, valour againſt our antient allies.

Wolfe. I thought no being, but animals of prey, could look upon a ſtate of perpetual warfare without horror.

Montgomery. Unhappily you are miſtaken; ſtrength will always prevail over juſtice among mankind, and conſequently a country muſt now, as formerly, build its freedom upon the baſis of war. Theſe are undeniable though melancholy truths; and the Americans, in whoſe name I ſpeak, have been made ſo ſenſible of them, that they are reſolved never to toil for oppreſſors, but to ſubſtitute a martial ardour to an active induſtry; for the tax of blood, which war impoſes, falls equally on the two adverſe parties.

Wolfe. No, not always ſo; for, as you have juſtly obſerved, ſome ingredients are to be added to courage, without which the moſt obſtinate reſiſtance muſt be, at laſt, ſubdued.

Montgomery. But what can compell the heart? What can force a people to bear tamely their chains, when opportunity preſents itſelf for ſhewing the abhorrence of them, and for renewing a juſt war?

MONITOR, *on the* ARMINIAN MAGAZINE.

To the PUBLISHER *of the* WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

SIR,

IT was with no small astonishment I observed in the Caledonian Mercury of the 10th current, an advertisement anouncing the birth of a publication under the title of the *Arminian Magazine*. The propriety of this publication the editor attempts to justify from a variety of arguments contained in an address to the reader. However specious these arguments may be, I cannot help thinking, that, to seduce the weak and unstable from a doctrine clearly established in scripture, and as such, adopted and taught by the churches of England * and Scotland †, is manifestly the design of this publication—a design not less *daring* than *new*. It is obvious to whose province the checking this theory belongs.

Many of our clergymen, on a late national fast, shewed a becoming zeal and attachment to the interest and happiness of that glorious constitution under which we live, by warmly inculcating on the minds of their hearers those duties inseparably connected with the character of a good and loyal subject; in doing so they were acting very seasonably, and discharging an important part of their duty. Some of them, however, went farther on that occasion in their sermons (some of which were afterwards published), by entering into a *political* discussion of the rise, the causes, the progress, and evident effects of the present contest with our ungrateful rebellious colonies;—a subject, by no means, proper for the pulpit. However much the clergy may be qualified to argue upon, and even to determine with precision matters of a political nature, is is by no means the province allotted them in the state; and so soon as they attempt to *act* in that sphere, they invade the right and property of others. To watch over the interests of the church, by endeavouring to preserve her in *health* and *soundness*, is their proper,—their *only* department. The publication above suggested will afford ample field for exhibiting those abilities for which many of them are remarkable; the error it teaches is a subject which justly demands their every endeavour and utmost attention to suppress, not by the force of *civil* power, but by the force of argument drawn from scripture alone; by which the minds of many may be guarded from imbibing an error, not only reprobated by the famous synod of Dort and the churches of England and Scotland, but by the injured scriptures of truth and infallibility.

Mr Printer, I mean not, by your inserting this in your Magazine, that a controversy should immediately commence in the magazines and news-papers upon the subject of that publication,—No, Sir, I think there are no publications more improper for religious disputes; I mean only to *suggest* to the clergy, thro' your widely circulated Magazine, what I apprehend to be their duty, and in doing so, I only act in the character of a

MONITOR.

Edinburgh, Dec. 12.

* *Article* 17. † *Article* 10.

MOMUS: *Or, The* LAUGHING PHILOSOPHER.

SKETCHES *of an* EFFEMINATE GENTLEMAN *and a* MASCULINE LADY.

BEING with an old friend of mine a few days, at his house about fourteen miles from London, he told me one morning, that he would carry me to a neighbour's house, where I could see a couple of *Characters*.—"You must know (continued he), that my neighbour has but one child, and unfortunately of the female sex: She has been excessively humoured and indulged; and as she is naturally of a riotous, romping disposition, she is more like a boy than a girl. On the other hand, her uncle's son, whom he left to the care of her father, is of so timid a temper, that he seems to be rather of the feminine than the masculine gender. But I will not anticipate the diversion which I expect from them; in return, I only request you to put us in a way to set them to rights.—My neighbours often intreat *me* to endeavour to make them appear with more characteristic looks, and make them act in a more characteristic manner; but they have been humoured so long, it will neither be in *my* power nor *yours*, I fear, to work a reformation in the one or the other."

In consequence of this opening address, we set out to the place proposed. The master of the house received us with the greatest civility; and upon being as-

ked after Miſs *Georgiana*, he replied, that he believed ſhe had ſtepped into her couſin's dreſſing-room, to which he would carry us, he ſaid. We accordingly followed him, with all our curioſity thoroughly awakened.

We found the young gentleman ſitting in an elegant chintz gown, tied over the breaſt with a broad roſe coloured ribbon: his hair was *en papillote;* he had a white dimity waiſtcoat, and a pair of white dimity breeches; his ſtockings were white ſilk, and his ſlippers ſcarlet, with yellow heels. He was evidently ſo deeply employed in pinning on a minionet lace in quills round his night-cap, that he did not obſerve us at our entrance into his apartment, which was filled with nicknacks, more fit for a lady's than a gentleman's. His toilette made a very faſhionable, though feminine appearance; but what ſtruck me moſt upon it, was a pink ſarſenet ſtock for his *delicate neck*, richly ornamented with a diamond buckle. Before his uncle could announce us, Miſs *Stride*, who was in a riding-coat and half boots, with a black beaver upon her head decorated with a feather of the ſame hue, having charged her fowling-piece, preſented the muzzle of it to his boſom.—In conſequence of this formidable preſentation, the fearful fribble ſcreamed in ſuch a manner, that we actually imagined he had received ſome injury—merely from the terrors of apprehenſion. The young lady, *enjoying* his timidity, burſt out into a loud laugh:—"What is the fool afraid of?" exclaimed ſhe. Her father deſired her not to be ſo miſchievous; but as ſhe ſtill perſiſted in preſenting her *piece* to her effeminate couſin, he called her off a ſecond time, but in a mild tone, as if he was apprehenſive of giving her offence; while he intreated his nephew *Languiſh* not to be alarmed, as he was well aſſured his daughter would not hurt him.—"May be not (replied he), but I wiſh ſhe would ſtand farther off, and take away her gun; for I am in ſuch a terror at the ſight of it, that I ſhall ſwallow all the pins in my mouth."—"And it would be the beſt deed I ever did in my life, (ſaid Miſs *Stride*) to drive them down your throat," preſenting her piece to him again, and endeavouring to increaſe his terror by the imitation of ſome military tones.—Upon this laſt *attack* he roſe, more frightened than he had yet been, and ran ſcreaming, with his fingers in his ears, to the other ſide of the room, deſiring his uncle to take "that great *hobby-de-hoy* away with him, as ſhe had thrown him into ſuch a panic, he had not a dry thread about him."—He then, pulling the bell, ordered the ſervant to bid his *woman* bring him a clean aired ſhirt.

I ſtared at a command ſo very new to me. His uncle reading my wiſhes in my countenance, ſaid to me, "You, Sir, who are a ſtranger to *Lewis*, think his having a female attendant on his perſon an uncommon circumſtance; but his mother abſolutely ſpoilt him, to be ſure; for ſhe would not let him remain at ſchool after he was fourteen, but upon his maſter's promiſing to let one of the maids always ſleep with him."

"'Tis very true, Sir, (ſaid Mr *Languiſh*); and I have been ſo long uſed to the handineſs of a woman about me, that I could not poſſibly endure to be *tucked up* by a *man*."

Miſs *Georgiana*, no longer able to bear her couſin's effeminacy, ſhouted at him, and turning to *me*, ſaid, "You may well ſtare, faith; but, upon my ſoul, he will not let any-body ſhave him except *Betty*; though, indeed, he has not a dozen hairs upon his chin; and I'll lay any wager you will, that I take a fair aim at any one of them."

"Hold, couſin, hold!" cried *Lewis*, dropping his *work*, and running terrified out of the room, leaving the lady maſter of the field; who, on being deſired to lay aſide her ſporting deſigns, and to go and dreſs herſelf, replied, "I muſt fire my piece firſt; for if *Lewis* ſuſpects that it is put away *charged*, he will faint at the very idea."—She then, throwing up the ſaſh, drew the trigger with as little embarraſſment as any leſs ſpirited lady would have flirted her fan. She afterwards, with equal compoſure and unconcern, invited me to play a game at billiards. Upon my declining to amuſe myſelf in that way with telling her, that I believed ſhe would be too *knowing* for me, ſhe aſked us to walk into *her* apartment; we followed her, and I was, I muſt confeſs, ſomewhat ſurpriſed at the appearance which it made. Inſtead of being ornamented in a manner agreeably to my notions of female taſte, the chief decorations were prints of horſes and dogs, between which were ſtuck up birds of various ſorts and ſizes, which ſhe had ſhot with her own hand. At the upper end of the room were the horns of a

large flag, after which she had galloped twelve hours, and obtained the *sweet satisfaction, en chasseuse*, of coming in at the death.—I was then going to retire, in order to give her time to change her shooting-dress; but she stopped me, saying, she was not like any of your bashful boobies, ashamed to let any-body see what every body knew. In short, before we could make good our retreat, she unbuttoned her jacket, displayed a fine full bosom, slipped down her petty-coats, and kicked her boots in the face of the footman, whom she called to attend her; declaring that she hated to have squeamish women fiddling about her, and that she thought her complexion always appeared most glowing when she was dressed by a man.—Her father lifted up his hands and eyes at these *Amazonian traits* in his daughter's character, telling her, at the same time, that she would not be dress before dinner.

"Let me alone for that (answered she, wiping her face); but I am at present all over in such a violent state of perspiration, that I cannot possibly think of putting on my cloaths again till I am cool."

Soon after this spirited speech from the lips of a fine piece of *animated nature*, notwithstanding all her masculine propensities, the dinner bell summoned us to a very different part of the house; and my friend was easily prevailed on to take a family dinner with his neighbour, that I might be entertained with the exhibition of two *characters* strikingly contrasted. We were not a little diverted to see Miss sit down to table with her cap awry, and her hair dressed as if she had (like the slovenly monarch of Sweden, Charles XII.) combed it with her fingers; while her cousin was so *bien poudre*, that he had not a single hair *derange*. He was, in truth, as neat as—and even more modest than the nicest maid; for he picked the smallest bits, scarce letting them touch his mouth or hands; his lips were covered with the liveliest red; and his hands, having been continually washed with almond-paste, and wrapped in chicken-gloves, were too delicate to take up any thing but his knotting-shuttle, to which he had recourse when the wine and fruit were set upon the table, as he could not be persuaded to drink a glass of wine, or to crack a walnut, *protesting* that the former only encouraged pimples, and that he had already broken half a tooth with the latter.—However, Miss *Stride* would not let him get off with so much ease; as she drank like a fish, and swore like a trooper, she rapping out some pretty broad oaths (not inferior to any which are roundly articulated in *Broad St Giles's*), insisted upon his drinking her *toast*, and threatened to send him to the devil if he refused. Coming up to him with a bumper in her hand, to enforce her menaces, she cried, "Come, Sir, here's confusion to all Macaronies; down with it, or be d——d." Upon this peremptory address, delivered with uncommon energy, his screams were frightful. Her father then begging her not to terrify her cousin any more, she threw the wine full into his bosom, which stained the delicate laced frille of his shirt, and so wetted his elegant waistcoat, *tamboured* with his own dainty hands, that he declared, "He believed he should fall into a swoon."—This declaration threw the masculine Miss into an immoderate fit of laughter; and we seized that moment of excessive mirth to retire from a pair of Characters the most opposite to each other I had ever met, and in the most laughable line of opposition.

Original Bons Mots of Mr FOOTE.

THE late K——, one afternoon at his coffee, asked the Countess of Y————tk, "What be dat Footes, dat make so much noise in de Haymarket?" "Oh, Sir," replied the lady, he is a mimic." "A mimique! we have no mimique in Germany; we have, indeed, des buffons." Just as the conversation had gone so far upon the subject, the clock struck five, and, as usual, they retired to take an afternoon's nap. This being told circumstantially to Foote by the page in waiting, he instantly said, "The countess is undoubtedly the greatest mimic in Europe, for she can take the K—— off when she pleases."

WHEN Foote was at Brightheimstone, he interested himself in favour of a candidate in opposition to Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, who was espoused by a lady of considerable rank. Foote being rebuked by her ladyship, and seeming to be affected with contrition, said, "I beg your ladyship's pardon, and am convinced of my error, for Sir Watkin is the best qualified of any man I know for representing a county in Wales, as he is very *mountainous*, and extremely *barren*."

POETRY.

For the WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

AN ELEGY.

BENEATH the ſhadow of yon wither'd tree,
Say! can I tread, when flitting ghoſts appear,
Or eye the ſpot perchance deſign'd for me,
Yet ſcorn to ſhed a ſympathetic tear.

When doom'd ſecure to reſt, from life of woes,
Intombed for a while remain the juſt;
Are flocks allow'd to break their ſoft repoſe,
Or ſcatter round in air cœleſtial duſt?

Theſe wand'ring ſpectres ſure have fled their tombs,
Shook off their manacles, as if in ſcorn,
Indignant, leſt the foul unhallow'd domes
By parſon's horſe or cow relentleſs torn.

Oh, *Senſibility*! turn here thine eye,
View well theſe ſcenes of horror and diſmay;
Behold around theſe mould'ring relics lie,
And, if thou can'ſt, go unconcern'd away.

Will man to kindred duſt no pity ſhow,
Congenial manes ſome protection claim;
Nature aloud bids every boſom glow,
To guard their aſhes and protect their fame.

When fate me becko ns to my native clay,
'Lone lay me 'neath ſome mountain's rugged brow,
Hopeful I'll wait the reſurrection day,
Ne'er made the ſport of any parſon's cow.

D. C.

Banks of Leven, Oct. 18.

On the BREAKING *up of* PARLIAMENT.

AT length the golden ſynod ends,
Whigs, tory members, foes, and friends,
All to their homes retreat;
Howe'er our arms abroad ſucceed,
Th' important truce is *here* agreed
To end each glorious feat.

St Stephen's walls no more reſound
With loud debate thro' all their round,
While flames the *wordy* war;
But ſacred ſilence ſits and nods,
(Silence, rever'd by men and gods!)
And makes them all their care.

The courtier, vain of air and grace,
Still envy'd for his purſe or place,
Can now his claim reſign;
A while his golden dreams ſuſpends,
To other thoughts his mind he bends,
To pleaſure, love, and wine.

The patriots too, who all employ
Their utmoſt art, and ſwell with joy,
To *cut* the miniſtry,
Now from the buſy ſcene retire,
To warm themſelves o'er ſea-coal fire,
And *cut* a Chriſtmas pye.

Nor ſhall our George's own Germaine,
North, Suffolk, or their train diſdain,
To grace the muſe's ſong;
O could ſhe by ſome magic pow'r,
While they beguile th' indulgent hour,
The hours of peace prolong!

Richmond, and Burke, and patriots ſtout;—
All who'd be *in*, but ſtill are *out*,
Should joyful now appear;
Since thus they may their force recruit,
And call their bloſſoms into fruit,
Againſt "the op'ning year."

So fair befall our native iſle,
So fav'ring ſeaſons on her ſmile,
And peace at laſt prevail;
As he who writes deſires to ſee
St Stephen's ſons at laſt agree,
And end "The Chriſtmas Tale."

MENENIUS.

A BIRTH-DAY SONG.

By the Rev. J. O. M. A.

New York, June 4. 1777.

TIME was when America hallow'd the morn,
On which the lov'd monarch of Britain was born,
Hallow'd the day, and joyfully chanted
God ſave the King!

Then flouriſh'd the bleſſings of freedom and peace,
And plenty flow'd in with a yearly increaſe,
Then proud of our lot we chanted merrily
Glory and joy crown the King!

With envy beheld by the nations around,
We rapidly grew, nor was any thing found
Able to check our growth while we chanted
God ſave the King!

O bleſt beyond meaſure, had honour and truth
Still nurſ'd in our hearts what they planted in youth!
Loyalty ſtill had chanted merrily
Glory and joy crown the King!

But ſee! how rebellion has lifted her head!
How honour and truth are with loyalty fled!
Few are there now who join us in chanting
God ſave the King!

And ſee! how deluded the multitude fly
To arm in a cauſe that is built on a lie!
Yet are we proud to chant thus merrily
Glory and joy crown the King!

Though faction and falſehood a while may
prevail,
And loyalty ſuffers a captive in jail,
Britain is rouſ'd, rebellion is falling,
God ſave the King!

The captive ſhall ſoon be releas'd from his
chain,
And conqueſt reſtore us to Britain again,
Ever to join in chanting merrily
Glory and joy crown the King.

For the WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

The GRACES *in Town; or,* MERCURY'S *Advice.*

SCENE, *The Dreſſing-room of the Graces.*

"*Not obvious, nor obtruſive.*" MILTON.

SAYS Mercury to the three Graces,
One morning when waſhing their faces:
My dear lady maids,
Why left you the ſhades
Of Paphos' ſweet iſle,
And your queen's radiant ſmile,
To loiter in theſe blackguard places?

There's Jupiter ſtern,
Without any concern
For Juno her ſcolding and whining,
Has riſen at ſix,
And paſs'd over Styx,
With grim Pluto and Proſerpine dining.

Minerva the wiſe
Has open'd her eyes,
And begun to her needle an hour ſince I'm ſure:
And Diana the chaſte
Had lac'd up her waſte,
And her creſcent put on 'ere I open'd the door;

The ſweet little loves,
With Venus's doves,
Were at play on the guitar a while before ſeven;
The louſe-trap with care
Had adjuſted their hair,
While yours is diſhevell'd and looſe till eleven.

Say, what do you mean?
The vapours and ſpleen
Will quickly deſtroy the remains of your bloom;
Then lamenting too late,
With untimely regret,
You'll ſubſtitute faſhion and dreſs in their room.

Euphroſyne, 'tis true,
To give her her due,
Of the three ſilly ſouls is the beſt;
She's earlier ſtirring,
Looks after the herring,
And retires ſomething ſooner to reſt.

Then feathers and corks,
The fantaſtical works
Of faſhion, that foe to true taſte!
Will be brought to ſupply
The charms that ne'er die,
By nature and modeſty dreſt.

Adieu, the ſoft ſigh,
The truth-beaming eye,
The language that flows from the heart;
They have govern'd their day,
But now muſt give way
To the manners of falſehood and art.

Simplicity fair
Once appear'd in your air,
And neatneſs almoſt to true elegance roſe:
So eaſy your mein,
Your faces ſo clean, (roſe.
And your bluſh was as ſweet as the half-open'd

But, alas! in the town
This will never go down,
Fair nature ſeems awkward, her modeſty mean;
For flirting and ſhow,
The coquet and the beau (ſcene.
Are adapted, and they ſhould fill up the gay

For you ſimple girls,
Not diamonds nor pearls,
Nor all the gay ſplendor of fortune's parade,
Could fit you for theſe;
So return to your trees, (ſhade.
And know your true ſphere is retirement and

But I lecture in vain,
While deaf to my ſtrain,
Your glaſs is conſulted,
Your heads are exalted,
For which theſe falſe locks you purloin;
I muſt haſte o'er the main,
With fair hope in my train,
To bring comfort and peace to *Burgoyne*.

CERBERUS.

Glaſgow, Dec. 12.

VERSES *to the late Dr* PEARCE, *Biſhop of* ROCHESTER, *and his Lady, on Occaſion of their celebrating the Fiftieth Year of their union as a Year of* Jubilee.

NO more let calumny complain,
That Hymen binds in cruel chain,
And makes his ſubjects ſlaves:
Supported by the good and wiſe,
Her keeneſt ſlander he defies,
Her utmoſt malice braves.

To-day—he triumphs e'er his foes,
And to the world a pair he ſhows,
Though long his ſubjects—free:
Who happy in his bands appear,
And joyful call the FIFTIETH year
A year of JUBILEE.

AN EPIGRAM.

NO theme e'er flow'd from any poet's
tongue
Equal to that which tow'ring Milton ſung;
The reaſon is, (if truth's not deem'd uncivil)
Becauſe he ſung the conqueſt of the D—l.

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES.

SUMMARY *of the* DEBATE *in the* HOUSE *of* LORDS, *on the Queſtion of Adjournment, Thurſday, December* 11.

THE *Earl* of *Oxford* roſe and moved, "That this houſe do adjourn to Tueſday the 20th of January next."

Lord Chatham began the debate, and ſpoke to the following purport:

My Lords,

IT is not with leſs grief than aſtoniſhment I hear the propoſition now made by the noble earl, at a time when the affairs of this country preſent, on every ſide, proſpects full of awe, terror, and impending danger; when, I will be bold to ſay, events of a moſt dangerous nature, little expected or foreſeen, will ſhortly happen; when a cloud, that may cruſh this nation, and bury it in deſtruction for ever, is ready to burſt and overwhelm us in ruin. At ſo tremendous a ſeaſon, it does not become your lordſhips, the great hereditary council of the nation, to neglect your duty; to retreat to your country-ſeats for ſix weeks, in queſt of joy and merriment, while the real ſtate of public affairs call for grief, mourning, and lamentation; at leaſt for the fulleſt exertions of your wiſdom. It is your duty, my lords, as the grand hereditary council of the nation, to adviſe your ſovereign; to be the protectors of your country; to feel your own weight and authority. As hereditary counſellors, as members of this houſe, you ſtand between the crown and the people; you hold the balance; your duty is to ſee that the weights are properly poized; that the balance remains even, that neither may encroach on the other; and that they may be prevented, by unconſtitutional exertion of even conſtitutional authority, from bringing the nation to deſtruction. My lords, I fear we are arrived at the very brink of that ſtate; and, I am perſuaded, that nothing ſhort of a ſpirited interpoſition on your part, in giving ſpeedy and wholeſome advice to your ſovereign, can prevent the people from feeling, beyond remedy, the fatal effects of that ruin which miniſters have brought upon us. Theſe are the calamitous circumſtances miniſters have been the cauſe of; and ſhall we, in ſuch a ſtate of things, when every moment teems with events productive of the moſt fatal narratives; ſhall we truſt, during an adjournment of ſix weeks, to thoſe men who have brought thoſe calamities upon us; when, perhaps, our utter overthrow is plotting, nay, ripe for execution, without almoſt a poſſibility of prevention? Will your lordſhips truſt to the guidance of men, who, in every ſingle ſtep of this cruel, this wicked war, from the very beginning, have proved themſelves weak, ignorant, and miſtaken? I will not ſay, my lords, nor do I mean any thing perſonal, or that they have brought premeditated ruin on this country. I will not ſuppoſe that they foreſaw what has ſince happened; but I do contend, my lords, that their guilt, I will not ſuppoſe it guilt, but their want of wiſdom, their incapacity, their temerity in depending on their own judgment, or their baſe compliances with the orders and dictates of others, perhaps, cauſed by the influence of one or two individuals, have rendered them totally unworthy of your lordſhips' confidence, of the confidence of parliament, and thoſe whoſe rights they are the conſtitutional guardians of, the people at large. My lords, I do not wiſh to call your attention entirely to that point. I would fairly appeal to your own ſentiments, whether I can be juſtly charged with arrogance or preſumption, if I ſaid, great and able as miniſters think themſelves, that all the wiſdom of the nation is confined to the narrow circle of the petty cabinet. I might, I think, without preſumption, ſay, that your lordſhips, as one of the branches of the legiſlature, may be ſuppoſed as capable of adviſing your ſovereign, in the moment of difficulty and danger, as any leſſer council, compoſed of a fewer number; and who, being already ſo fatally truſted, have betrayed a want of honeſty, or a want of talents. Is it, my lords, within the utmoſt ſtretch of the moſt ſanguine expectation, that the ſame men who have plunged you into your preſent perilous and calamitous ſituation, are the proper perſons to reſcue you from it? No, my lords; ſuch an expectation would be prepoſterous and abſurd. I ſay, my lords, you are now ſpecially called upon to interpoſe. It is your duty to forego every call of buſineſs and pleaſure; to give up your whole time to enquire into paſt miſconduct; to provide remedies for the preſent; to

prevent future evils; to reſt on your arms, if I may uſe the expreſſion; to watch for the public ſafety; to defend and ſupport the throne; and, if fate ſhould ſo ordain it, to fall with it, and with becoming fortitude, with the reſt of your fellow-ſubjects, in the general ruin. I fear, this laſt will be the caſe. It is your lordſhips duty to do every thing in your power that it ſhall not; but, if it muſt be ſo, I truſt your lordſhips, and the nation, will fall glorioufly.

My lords, as the firſt and moſt immediate object, I would recommend to you to conſider the true ſtate of our home-defence. We have heard much from a noble lord in this houſe of the ſtate of our navy. I cannot give an implicit belief to all I have heard on that important ſubject. I ſtill retain my former opinion relative to the number of line of battle-ſhips; but as an enquiry into the real ſtate of the navy is deſtined to be the ſubject of future conſideration, I do not wiſh to hear more about it, till that period arrives. I allow, in argument, that we have thirty-five ſhips of the line fit for actual ſervice. I doubt much whether ſuch a force would give us a full command of the channel. I am certain, if it did, every other part of our poſſeſſions muſt lie naked and defenceleſs, in every quarter of the globe. And I fear our utter deſtruction is at hand.—[Here, and in many other parts of his ſpeech, his lordſhip broadly hinted, that the Houſe of Bourbon was meditating ſome important and deciſive blow near home.]—What, my lords, is the ſtate of our military defence? I would not wiſh to expoſe our preſent weakneſs; but weak as we are, if this war ſhould be continued, as the public declarations of perſons in high confidence with their ſovereign would induce us to ſuppoſe, is this nation to be entirely ſtripped? But allowing that it ſhould, would every ſoldier now in Britain be ſufficient to give us an equality to the force in America? I will maintain they would not; where then will men be procured? Recruits are not to be had in this country. Germany will give no more. I have read in the news-papers of this day, and I have reaſon to believe it to be true, that the head of the Germanic body has remonſtrated againſt it, and has taken meaſures accordingly to prevent it. Miniſters have, I hear, applied to the Swiſs cantons. The idea is prepoſterous. The Swiſs never permit their troops to go beyond ſea. Nay, ſo cautious and determined are they to guard even againſt a poſſibility of it, though the cantons are ſubſidiaries of France, and have, at all times, a very ſtrong body of troops in the pay of the French king, they have a ſpecial article inſerted in their ſubſidiary treaties, that the troops ſhall be always at liberty to diſband, if commanded to march nearer than a certain diſtance to the ſea-coaſt. But, my lords, if even men were to be procured in Germany, how will you march them to the water-ſide? Have not our miniſters applied for the port of Embden, and has it not been refuſed? I ſay, you will not be able to procure men even for our home defence, if ſome immediate ſteps be not taken. I remember, during the laſt war, it was thought adviſeable to levy independent companies; they were, when compleated, formed into battalions, and proved of great ſervice. I love the army!; I know its uſe; but I muſt own notwithſtanding, that I was a great friend to the meaſures of eſtabliſhing a national militia. I remember the laſt war, that there were three camps formed of that corps, at once, in this kingdom. I ſaw them myſelf: One at Wincheſter; another in the weſt, at Plymouth; and a third, if I recollect right, at Chatham, (told he was right). Whether the militia is at preſent in ſuch a ſtate as to anſwer the valuable purpoſes it did then, I will not pretend to ſay; but I ſee no reaſon why, in ſuch a critical ſtate of affairs, the experiment ſhould not be made; and why it may not be put again on the former reſpectable footing. I remember, all circumſtances conſidered, when appearances were not nearly ſo melancholy and alarming as they are, that there were more troops in the county of Kent alone, for the defence of the kingdom, than there are now in the whole iſland.

My lords, I contend, that we have not, nor can procure any force ſufficient to ſubdue America. It is monſtrous to think of it. There are ſeveral noble lords preſent well acquainted with military affairs. I call upon any one of them to riſe and pledge himſelf, that the military force now within the kingdom is adequate to its defence; or that any poſſible force to be procured from Germany, Switzerland, or elſewhere, will be equal to the conqueſt of America. I am too perfectly perſuaded of their abilities and integrity, to expect any ſuch aſſurance from them.—Oh! but if America

is not to be conquered, ſhe may be treated with. Conciliation is at length thought of; terms are to be offered. Who are the perſons that are to treat on the part of this afflicted and deluded country? The very men who have been the authors of our misfortunes; the very men who have endeavoured, by the moſt pernicious policy, the higheſt injuſtice and oppreſſion, the moſt cruel and devaſting war, to enſlave thoſe people they would conciliate, and gain their confidence and affection. Can your lordſhips entertain the moſt diſtant proſpect of ſucceſs from ſuch a treaty, and ſuch negociators? No, my lords, the Americans have virtue, and they muſt deteſt the principles of ſuch men: they have underſtanding, and too much wiſdom, to truſt to the cunning and narrow politics which muſt cauſe ſuch overtures on the part of their mercileſs perſecutors. My lords, I maintain, that they would ſhun, with a becoming prudence, any propoſition coming from that quarter. They would receive terms from ſuch men, as ſnares to allure and betray. They would dread them as ropes meant to be put about their legs, in order to entangle them in certain ruin.

My lords, ſuppoſing that our domeſtic danger, if at all, is far diſtant; that our enemies will leave us at liberty to proſecute this war to the utmoſt of our ability; ſuppoſe your lordſhips ſhould grant a fleet one day, an army another; all theſe, I do affirm, will avail nothing, unleſs you accompany it with advice. Miniſters have been in error; experience has proved it; and, what is worſe, they continue in it. They told you in the beginning, that 15,000 men would traverſe all America, without ſcarcely an appearance of interruption; two campaigns have paſſed ſince, where treble that number was employed; and one of your armies, which compoſed two-thirds of that number, has been totally deſtroyed, and are now led captive through thoſe provinces you call rebellious. Theſe men, whom you called cowards, poltroons, runaways, and knaves, are become victorious over your veteran troops; and in the midſt of victtory, and fluſh of conqueſt, have ſet miniſters an example of moderation and magnanimity well worthy imitation.

My lords, no time ſhould be loſt which may promiſe to *improve* this diſpoſition in America, unleſs, by an obſtinacy founded in madneſs, we wiſh to ſtifle thoſe embers of affection which, after all our ſavage treatment, do not ſeem as yet to have been entirely extinguiſhed. While on one ſide we muſt lament the unhappy fate of that ſpirited officer, Mr Burgoyne, and the gallant troops under his command, who were ſacrificed to the wanton temerity and ignorance of miniſters, we are as ſtrongly compelled on the other to admire and applaud the generous, magnanimous conduct, the noble friendſhip, and brotherly affection and humanity of the victors, who condeſcended to impute the horrid orders of maſſacre and devaſtation to their true authors; and ſuppoſed, as ſoldiers and Engliſhmen, theſe cruel exceſſes could not have originated with the general. They executed thoſe acts as ariſing from mere duty; and, by that humane interpretation, granted them terms of capitulation which, as the makers of fair and honourable war only, they could be entitled to.

My lords, I ſhould not have preſumed to trouble you, if the critical tremendous ſtate of this nation did not, in my opinion, make it neceſſary. Such as I have this day deſcribed it to be, I do maintain it is. The ſame meaſures are ſtill perſiſted in; and miniſters, becauſe your lordſhips have been deluded, deceived, and miſled, preſume, that whenever the worſt comes, they will be enabled to ſhelter themſelves behind parliament. This, my lords, cannot be the caſe: they have committed themſelves and their meaſures to the fate of war, and they muſt abide the iſſue. I tremble for this country; I am almoſt led to deſpair that we ſhall be ever able to extricate ourſelves. Whether or not, the day of retribution is at hand, when the vengeance of a much injured and afflicted people will, I truſt, fall heavily on the authors of their ruin; and I am ſtrongly inclined to believe, that before the day to which the propoſed adjournment ſhall arrive, the noble earl who moved it, will have juſt cauſe to repent he ever did.

Lord Osborne (Marquis of Carmarthen) begged leave to differ from the laſt noble lord. He ſaid, there was too much truth in what was now advanced, he feared, not to fill the breaſt of every noble lord preſent with a proper ſenſe of our calamitous ſituation. He ſaid the motion for adjournment was the uſual motion at this ſeaſon of the year; nor could he ſee what poſſible good purpoſe it would anſwer to

keep their lordſhips in town by ſhort adjournments; becauſe no immediate meaſures could be taken without the concurrence of the other houſe. This houſe formed but one branch of the legiſlature; nor did he think it would at all be proper to take any lead, but what the conſtitution aſſigned. His lordſhip ſuppoſed, that none of their lordſhips wiſhed to get out of town, to enjoy during the Chriſtmas ſcenes of feſtivity; on the contrary, if what was generally underſtood, that meaſures of great moment were to be taken under conſideration ſoon after the recefs, he thought that the *cloſet*, not an ineffectual attendance merely to adjourn, would be the propereſt ſcene for their lordſhips during that period. In the *cloſet*, their lordſhips, abſtracted from every extrinſic conſideration, would have an opportunity and leiſure to conſider of the real ſituation of affairs, and be enabled to decide on the moſt feaſible and promiſing means of extricating us from our preſent difficulties. He had a ſtrong objection to enter into any diſcuſſion relative to the cauſes of General Burgoyne's miſcarriage; and that was, that probably the general, by being captive, might be furniſhed with the means of ſtriking out ſome ground of treaty, which might be acceptable to both parties. Many inſtances were recorded in hiſtory, where captive generals have learned ſomething material relative to the ultimate objects of their adverſaries; when *both* ſides being inclined to make *conceſſions*, matters being thus previouſly underſtood, the conteſt has terminated in an amicable treaty, and finally ended in peace.

[His lordſhip was thought here to allude to the captivity of the late *Earl Ligonier*, when Sir John Ligonier, after the battle of La Feldt in 1747, being introduced into the preſence of the French king, that prince aſked him, When will the king your maſter, Sir, be inclined to reſtore tranquillity to Europe? This gave birth to a *private* negociation, which brought on the conferences at Breda, and at length produced the pacification of Aix-la-Chapelle.]

The Duke of Manchester declared he had ſat ſtill in expectation that ſome of the lord in office would have given the houſe more ſolid reaſons for the adjournment moved for, than thoſe which had been offered by the noble marquis. That the plea of waiting for Gen. Burgoyne's arrival was too frivolous a ground for adjourning the parliament; but it was of a piece with the reſt of the conduct of miniſters, who held parliament at will, called them together merely when they wanted ſupplies, and diſmiſſed them as ſoon as ſupplies were granted, without ever giving them a reaſon for raiſing them, or ſhewing that they would be applied to any ſalutary purpoſe. The Duke ſaid, he had hoped that, before the adjournment, miniſtry would at leaſt have ſuffered their lordſhips to have gone home, enabled, in ſome degree, to judge of the propriety of the meaſures intended to be purſued, in order to retrieve the honour of the nation, by allowing them that kind of information which would give them a proper knowledge of the real ſtate of public affairs; as, however, his hopes had proved vain, he could not but lament the wretched fate of this country, and deplore with the noble earl, that, although its danger became daily more and more imminent, miniſtry were ſo ſhamefully inattentive to its neceſſary protection.

His Grace adverted to the impracticability of raiſing men for the ſervice of the war; repeating, that the reſources from Germany either were at an end, or ſo clogged with difficulties as to be but little advantageous; and that Switzerland, when ſhe aſſiſted her antient and natural ally, the French, always ſtipulated, that her troops ſhould not be marched within a certain diſtance of the coaſt, and that they ſhould be within the power of a recall home at a limited period. If Ruſſia was depended upon by adminiſtration, they looked where their expectation could not be anſwered; Ruſſia, he was well informed, had lately had a freſh rupture with Turkey, and, notwithſtanding her ſucceſſes in the laſt war with the Ottoman empire, ſhe found herſelf ſo much drained at the end of that war, that ſhe was obliged to recruit her forces immediately. Having ſpoken for ſome time on the improbability of eaſily procuring men from other powers, his Grace turned his eyes to the military ſituation of Great Britain, and went largely into an inveſtigation of the preſent ſtate of the militia, ſhewing, that, in the courſe of the laſt war, that national force ſtood in a moſt reſpectable light; that now it was fallen into ſo very deſpicable a ſituation, from its being badly officered, and men of no property, and little character, obtaining commiſſions, that if it was called forth, under an idea

that it might be relied on as equally ſerviceable as it proved laſt war, government would, to their coſt, find themſelves miſerably deceived. His Grace mentioned the part he had himſelf taken to put it upon a reſpectable footing when it was laſt called forth, and imputed its preſent weak and unſerviceable ſtate to the ſcandalous neglect with which it had been treated ever ſince the concluſion of the war. His Grace ſtrongly oppoſed the motion.

The Earl of Suffolk roſe next, and replied to the principal arguments of Lord Chatham againſt the motion. His lordſhip denied that he either had, or wiſhed to ſcreen himſelf behind the parliament; he ſaid he always to the king, and before their lordſhips, ſpoke his opinion from his heart, as it really was, and as it became an honeſt man; that he might ſurely be allowed to ſuppoſe his opinion the more ſolid, and his ſentiments the more judicious, when they were ſtrengthened by the approbation and concurrence of their lordſhips and the other Houſe of Parliament. That the preſent motion was no novelty; it was a motion common to the ſeaſon, with this difference, that it came a few days ſooner than uſual, becauſe the great and neceſſary buſineſs of the nation had been ſooner diſpatched. That there was no doubt public affairs were in a very critical ſtate, and he heartily lamented that they were ſo; but he did not ſee any neceſſity for their lordſhips ſitting during the holidays. That the receſs was not deſigned, as the noble earl who ſpoke firſt in the debate had mentioned, for feſtivity or merriment. That the king's ſervants in particular would be fully employed during the interval. That he wondered not, however, that men whoſe opinion would not be aſked in any other place, and whoſe councils were not wanted, ſhould be ſo ready to ſit and give their opinion in that only place in which they could deliver it.

With regard to America's not being willing to treat with any particular ſet of men, the earl declared he could not credit the aſſertion: when America was inclined to accede to any treaty, he doubted not ſhe would as willingly treat with the preſent miniſtry, as with any other men; and with regard to the opinion of the public, little ſcruple could be made whether they would preſer thoſe who had all along ſtood up for their rights, and commenced a juſt and neceſſary war, in ſupport of the rights and fundamental intereſt of the kingdom, or that ſet who had uniformly oppoſed every meaſure of government, diſſeminated falſe alarms at home, and enflamed the minds of the Americans, by throwing fuel on the fire of rebellion. The public, his lordſhip added, was a moſt ſenſible public, and had given proof of its reaſon and good ſenſe throughout the whole war, by reſiſting the poiſonous endeavours of baſe incendiaries, and chearfully co-operating with government in its endeavours to procure a proper acknowledgment of the rights of Great Britain.

The noble earl who ſpoke firſt in the debate had, among other extraordinary aſſertions, mentioned the difficulty of finding men for the war. The noble earl had mentioned Holland and Holſtein; he knew not, he declared, of any application having been made to either of thoſe powers. The noble earl had mentioned Switzerland; he was equally a ſtranger to any treaty there. In Germany, the noble duke who ſpoke laſt had ſaid there were difficulties; probably the aſſertion was true; there were difficulties in procuring the men from Germany laſt year, and yet we had the men; there might be difficulties this year, he nevertheleſs had no idea but that we ſhould ſurmount them; this however, he could tell their lordſhips, Great Britain was not without reſources; every corner of the kingdom could afford her aid; and he would tell them further, that, within the laſt eight-and-forty hours government had received the moſt handſome offers of aſſiſtance without ſolicitation, and without any kind of application on her part.

His lordſhip concluded his ſpeech, which was extremely warm and animated with declaring, that the conduct of a vagrant congreſs, a congreſs which no perſon at home knew where it had run to, was not to be inſtanced as an object of example to their lordſhips; the earl added, that the ſpirit of a great nation was not to be broken by a ſingle misfortune; that the ſpirit of this country would, he doubted not, be roufed by Mr Burgoyne's accident; that government itſelf would prepare to proſecute the war with vigour; that the king's ſervants, however, would, in the receſs of parliament, conſider of what terms of conciliation were proper to be held out

to America, and that, at a proper time, they would not fail to offer thoſe terms.

The *Duke of Richmond* againſt the propoſed adjournment. The queſtion was reducible to the following alternative; were it better that the king ſhould ſtill be adviſed by thoſe who had hitherto ſo groſly deceived him, or by the lords in parliament, from whom he might hear the truth? Thoſe who contended that the ſame ſort of advice ſhould continue to influence the ſovereign, contended in reality that error ſhould prevail. The cabinet counſellors had evinced their inſufficiency in various inſtances. A ſupply of wiſdom was wanting; and, ſhould any miniſter in that houſe dare to point out any lord whoſe advice his majeſty "will not receive?" the miniſter was guilty of "the greateſt preſumption" for holding ſuch a language. Would he venture to ſuggeſt that he had adviſed his majeſty to reject the council of any noble lord? The miniſter could not venture this. It would be a ſpecies of effrontery for which he ſhould be called to an account. If then it would be an inſult to parliament to preſcribe the advice of any noble lord, who ſo proper to give advice in this critical conjuncture of affairs, as the illuſtrious earl? who had already been the ſaviour of his country, and who had illuminated the political hemiſphere with the rays of England's glory.

As to the ſtate of the nation, the lords would in time be poſſeſſed of the papers neceſſary to diſcover it. Thus much only was applicable to the preſent purpoſe. The militia afforded but a weak defence: And as to the "handſome offer," which had been boaſted by one of the miniſters, it would prove only a broken reed in the hour of extremity. On the ſharp point of hope, confidence would expire. To what had the independent companies formerly raiſed by noblemen amounted? To only ten battalions. About ſeven thouſand men. They were raiſed when the general ardor of the people was at the higheſt; when men were unanimous in their opinions. Was this the caſe at preſent? Let the expedient be tried in order to diſcover the multiplicity of diſſentient voices.

But admitting that we would raiſe ſeven thouſand men; ſuch a number would not be adequate to our loſſes. From fifty-five thouſand men, the army in America had been reduced to twenty-five thouſand. A moſt calamitous reduction! and ſuch as would require more "handſome offers" than any which government would receive to reinſtate the loſs.

Terms of accommodation had been hinted as neceſſary to be offered at a "proper ſeaſon." Of what nature were the terms? And when was the "proper ſeaſon?" The noble lord in office (Suffolk) had affected a ſhew of candor. Why did not his actions and his words agree? Why did he not ſpeak out as a man? He had diſclaimed the idea of ſcreening himſelf behind parliament: it was equally mean to ſcreen himſelf behind the veil of Jeſuitical ſecrecy. The noble lord had talked in an high ſtrain of bombaſt about the mighty "ſupremacy" and the "fundamental rights" of this country. The hour of defeat was not the time for ſuch language. The queſtion was not, what we wiſhed to do in the ſpirit of conqueſt, but what we were able to do by exertion of ſtrength. Could we conquer America? We could not. We had failed moſt miſerably in the attempt. To talk therefore of a proper ſeaſon, now was the time, before we experienced greater calamities. We had formerly claimed ſupremacy over Scotland, by as valid a right of conqueſt as that by which we had claimed ſupremacy over America: Yet this chimerical claim had been waved, and an union had taken place. If we would treat with America, we muſt do it only by waving all claims of ſupremacy. By giving up what, in the high-flown ſpirit of Quixotiſm, miniſters had termed the "fundamental rights of this country." We muſt treat with the colonies as Independent. A fœderal union with America was the utmoſt that could be expected. Before we could regain America, we muſt reconquer it. The fate of Mr Burgoyne, had evinced the folly of attempting a conqueſt. If conqueſt were impracticable, the independence of America had been already ſecured. Was there any one of the miniſters who would ſay, that America was, at this moment, in a dependent ſtate? as ſoon as the colonies had been declared to be out of the peace of the King, they had formed a plan of government. Protection being denied, the law of ſelf-preſervation became the rule of duty: A mode of government, founded on the principles of ſelf-preſervation, took place, and continued in efficacy ever

ſince. The colonies at this moment are independent. We muſt bring them back by conqueſt to a dependent ſtate. That meaſure we had already tried, and it had been found to be impracticable. The only meaſure that remained, was to negociate a peace with America on theſe terms: "Admitting her independence, and forming ſuch an alliance, or fœderal union, as would be for the mutual intereſts of both countries."

Lord Shelburne againſt the motion for adjournment.——There was one very material reaſon why parliament ſhould not be adjourned. It was this, Parliament, by attending to the meaſures, could eaſily diſcover the incapacity of the miniſters. The ſurrender of Gen. Burgoyne, and the conſequent diſgrace of the Britiſh arms, was a fact which it was not in the power of ſophiſtry to explain away. Almoſt SIX THOUSAND men had been reduced to the neceſſity of laying down their arms. The whole of the Britiſh northern army had thus ſurrendered priſoners, and ſome generals of the provincial militia had eſcorted them to Boſton. Some very reſpectable characters who came over in the WARWICK, had proved the truth of this cataſtrophe. A letter had been received from GEN. FRAZER, which contained this expreſſion. "*I am not on a bed of roſes: Yet I care not for my own perſon.*" Some of the moſt reſpectable officers had foreſeen the calamity which would happen to Gen. Burgoyne. They had remonſtrated to him: But, regardleſs of their remonſtrances he had ruſhed on, and had met with his fate.

How was this obſtinate purſuit of a very deſperate project to be accounted for? On this principle—the orders to Mr Burgoyne were POSITIVE. He was to puſh through at any rate. The orders to Gen. Howe, and thoſe to Mr Clinton, were NOT poſitive, but diſcretionary. The conſequences had been ſuch as might be expected. Gen. Howe not having been poſitively inſtructed to aſſiſt Gen. Burgoyne, had gone for Philadelphia. Mr Clinton ſent two thouſand men to the aſſiſtance of Mr Burgoyne, and they arrived AFTER the ſurrender of the army. Gen. Howe, ſince his arrival at Philadelphia, had ſent to Mr Clinton for a reinforcement of FOUR THOUSAND men. It was not to be ſuppoſed that Mr Clinton would compiy with ſuch a requiſition. If he ſhould not, what would become of Gen. Howe? And if he ſhould, what would become of himſelf? Gen. Vaughan had undertaken an expedition in which it was very probable that he would ſhare the ſame fate with Mr Burgoyne. Should a worſe befall him, he was not to be pitied. The man who had moſt inhumanly reduced the town of Æſopus to aſhes, becauſe it was, in HIS eſtimation, inhabited by a neſt of villains, ſhould be ſmitten for his cruelties by the ſcourge of juſtice.

Thus then the caſe ſtood with reſpect to General Burgoyne. His orders were POSITIVE; to cut his way through at all events. No matter how hazardous the enterprize; how abſurd the project; or how chimerical the deſign. On the contrary, the orders to General Howe and Mr Clinton were NOT poſitive. Had they been poſitive, and thoſe officers had dared to diſobey them, they ſhould have been brought home "in chains," and they ſhould have been HUNG for their diſobedience of orders.

It was plain then that the ignorance, and the blunders of the miniſters, had occaſioned the diſaſter which had befallen Mr Burgoyne. He who dictated the orders was to blame. He therefore ſhould be called to an account. He ſhould be TRIED FOR HIS LIFE. And he ſhould obtain his pardon on this condition only: "That he made ample diſcovery of the perſons who recommended him to the ſervice of his ſovereign."

As to the ſtate of the garriſons in America, General Carleton had only three regiments at Quebec. The laſt advices from Ticonderoga mention the deplorable ſickneſs which prevailed amongſt the troops in Canada.

What had been the ſituation of our affairs? Had the ſmalleſt degree of unanimity prevailed amongſt the officers?—Very far from it. Mr Clinton had been jealous of Gen. Burgoyne. Gen. Howe had not placed much confidence in Mr Clinton: And Gen. Carleton had ſhewn the utmoſt indifference for all thoſe gentlemen. Xenophon aſcribes the ſucceſs of his retreat with the ten thouſand, to the unanimity which prevailed throughout the army, and to the profound deference which the officers and ſoldiers paid to each other. The oppoſite to this had been the caſe in America.

As to terms of conciliation, in treating with the colonies for peace, the object of independence, like the preamble to a ſtatute, ſhould not be mentioned until the body of conditions were adjuſted.

One good might result from the evil of defeat. Had America not been so successful, she would have been intirely thrown into the arms of France: She would have been the property of our enemies, rather than she would have submitted to our tyranny.

The faint glimmering of hope still remained: Were we wise, the feeble ray should conduct us as the star directed the Magi of the east to the dwellings of PEACE. Should war be still our object, it would be infinitely more conducive even to the pursuit of that measure for Gen. Howe to treat Gen. Washington as he did in the Jerseys; to LOOK AT HIM, and return to winter quarters in New-York.

The question being called for, there appeared

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To our READERS *and* CORRESPONDENTS.

WE shall conclude this Volume, and the Year, with our most grateful acknowledgments to both these Classes for the liberal support they have favoured us with.—Undismayed by the late *Revolution* in our Affairs, we have persevered in our Plan of Instruction and Amusement, and, we flatter ourselves, have improved upon it. We naturally expected a heavy desertion, but it has turned out so trifling, that our new levies have more than compensated the loss.—In our selection, we have endeavoured to accommodate ourselves to most tastes and capacities, whether of a Philosophical, Literary, Mechanical, or Mercantile cast; and there are few branches of Science which we have left totally untouched.—At the same time we have studied to soften the features of the grave and serious, by interspersing pieces of pleasantry and humour, and by seasoning the more solid dishes with some ingredients of a higher flavour.—By a steady adherence to this mode of procedure, we shall not despair of Readers while there are men of sense and discernment in Scotland.

In the mean time we must still solicit the aid of our worthy Correspondents; for, however extensive our researches may be, we shall always prefer the productions of our Countrymen, as more congenial to our plan. There are few Gentlemen, even of ordinary education, to whom circumstances will not often occur that may prompt them to take up the pen: But, next to the choice of the subject, the most important consideration is the manner of communicating their sentiments in distinct language. Elegance of expression is not to be attained at once; that must be the result of experience, judgment and taste; but there are few who may not deliver themselves, with the same ease and propriety, on paper, as in ordinary conversation.—Juvenile performances we are willing to indulge as far as possible; but, being the ostensible Publishers, we are accountable for all their imperfections. It has often given us pain to have been obliged to reject, nay to reprobate, pieces the faults of which were certainly more owing to the inattention than to the incapacity of the writer. How mortifying is it, to observe a fine sentiment, or a solid argument, buried in the rubbish of uncouth phrase, or vulgar expression? Yet instances of these we meet with almost every week, and it would be a Herculean labour to rescue or extricate.

A plain, simple mode of expression befits many subjects, and those of the most public utility, viz. Agriculture, Manufactures, Fisheries, Commerce, and whatever respects the police of the country. These are articles to which we wish to give a preference, and such as are commensurate to the abilities and capacity of almost all who are versant in any of these different branches.——Arts and Sciences next claim our attention, and give a more liberal scope for language. ——Well wrote papers on speculative subjects, will be always agreeable, and the sprightly sallies of poetical genius must give a relish to more serious and languid lucubrations.

On the whole, we intreat that the bulk of our Correspondents, will, for the sake of their own improvement and honour, be a little more attentive to their compositions; and we shall be glad to receive from them occasionally such finished pieces as we cannot in justice or candour reject.——In the mean time we wish them, and all our Readers, many happy returns of a New-Year, being the tenth wherein we have had the pleasure of thus addressing them.

[Due attention shall be paid to the favours lately received.]

END OF THE THIRTY-EIGHTH VOLUME.